

Appl. No. 09/672,821
Amdt. dated October 20, 2004
Reply to Office action of July 23, 2004

In the claims:

1. (original) At a call server in a packet-based telephony network, a method of maintaining a record of an active media connection comprising:

 sending a request, to a media gateway, for information regarding said active media connection; and

 receiving said information.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said sending comprises formulating said request using a network management protocol.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said network management protocol is ~~the~~ a Simple Network Management Protocol.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said network management protocol is ~~the~~ a Media Gateway Control Protocol.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said network management protocol is ~~the~~ a Session Initiation Protocol.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing said received information in a memory.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising repeating said sending at a predetermined interval.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an identification of a device originating said active media connection.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an indication of a duration of time said active media connection has been active.

10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an indication of a coding algorithm used for said active media connection.

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11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an indication of Quality of Service setting associated with said active media connection.

12. (currently amended) A call server operable to:

send a request, to a ~~media~~ media gateway, for information regarding an active media connection; and

receive said information.

13. (original) A computer readable medium containing computer-executable instructions which, when performed by a processor in a call server in a packet-based telephony network, cause the processor to:

send a request, to a media gateway, for information regarding an active media connection; and

receive said information.

14. (original) At a backup call server in a packet-based telephony network, a method of acquiring a record of an active media connection comprising:

receiving an indication of a failure of a primary call server, said primary call server, prior to said failure, supporting said active media connection;

responsive to said receiving, sending a request, to a media gateway, for information regarding said active media connection; and

receiving said information.

15. (original) At a media gateway in a packet-based telephony network, a method of providing a record of an active media connection comprising:

receiving, from a call server, a request for information regarding said active media connection; and

responsive to said request, transmitting information regarding said active media

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connection to said call server.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said request is received using the a Simple Network Management Protocol.

17. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes a network address of a device originating said active media connection.

18. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes an indication of a duration of time said active media connection has been active.

19. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes an indication of a coding algorithm used for said active media connection.

20. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes an indication of Quality of Service setting associated with said active media connection.

21. (original) A first media gateway comprising:

a receiver for receiving an incoming media flow;

a digital signal processor communicatively connected to said receiver for processing said media flow;

a transmitter communicatively connected to said digital signal processor for transmitting said media flow to a second media gateway;

a processor operable to:

receive, from a call server, a request for information regarding said media flow; and

responsive to said request, transmit information regarding said media flow to said call server.

22. (original) A computer readable medium containing computer-executable instructions which, when performed by a processor in a media gateway, cause the processor to:

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receive, from a call server, a request for information regarding an active media connection; and

responsive to said request, transmit information regarding said active media connection to said call server.

23. (original) A packet-based telephony network system comprising:

a packet based data network;

a telephone station apparatus;

a media gateway communicatively connected to said telephone station apparatus and said data network;

a primary call server communicatively connected, over said data network, to said media gateway; and

a backup call server communicatively connected, over said data network, to said media gateway and operable to:

send a request, to said media gateway, for information regarding an active media connection terminated at said primary server; and

receive said information.

24. (cancelled) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising a request for information regarding an active media connection.